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A SKETCH OF THE LIFE

OF THE LATE

G. W. CAMPBELL, A.M., M.D., LL.D.

LATE DEAN OF THE MEDICAL FACULTY,

AND A

Summary of the History of the Faculty,

BEING THE INTRODUCTORY ADDRESS OF THE FIFTIETH SESSION
OF THE MEDICAL FACULTY OF MCGILL UNIVERSITY.

By R. P. HOWARD, M.D., L.R.C.S.E,

Professor of Theory and Practice of Medicine, and Dean of the Medical Faculty.

MONTREAL:

PRINTED BY THE GAZETTE PRINTING COMPANY.

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*The EDITH and LORNE PIERCE
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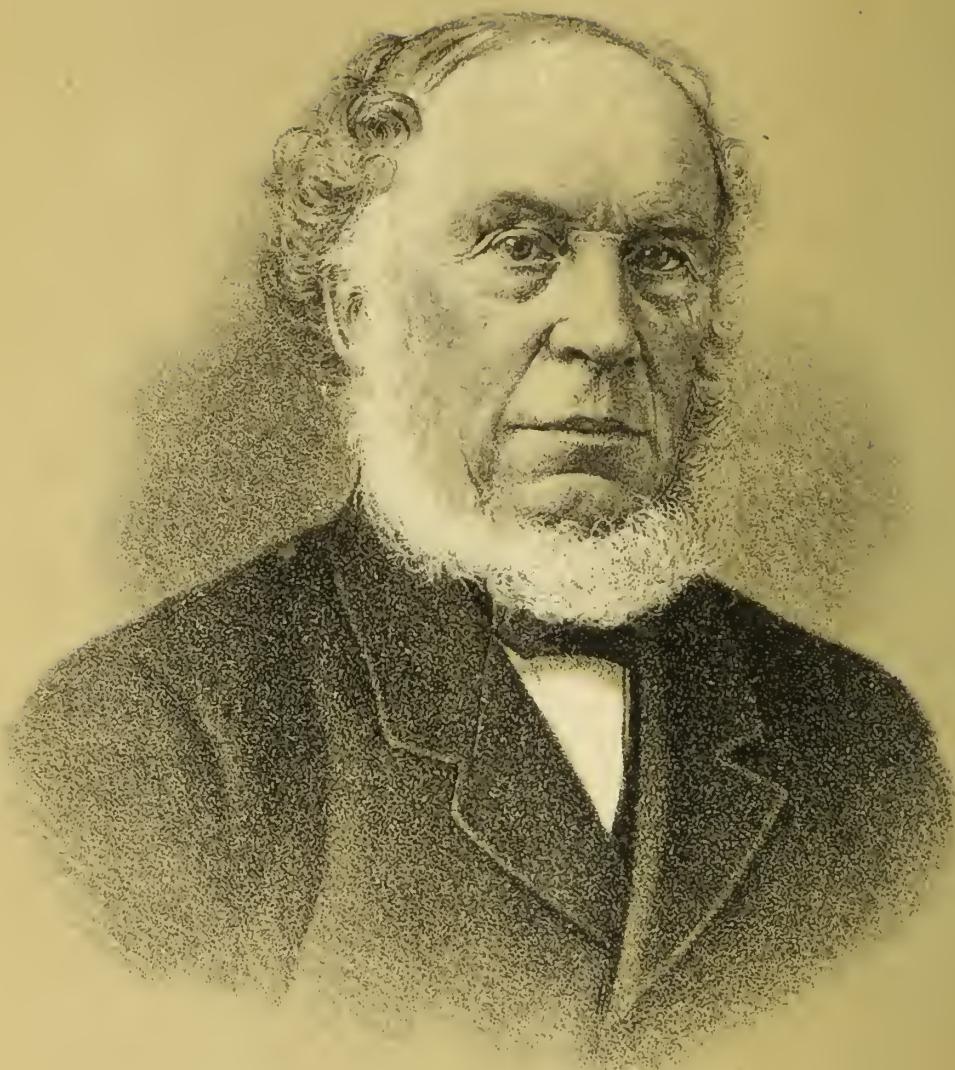


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LIFE OF THE LATE DEAN, G. W. CAMPBELL, A.M., M.D., LL.D.

By R. P. HOWARD, M.D., L.R.C.S.E.,

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Faculty.

GENTLEMEN,—We celebrate to-day the 50th session of the Medical Faculty of McGill University, an important period in the life of an individual, and in these days of unceasing activity and progress, a suitable stopping-place even in the history of an institution, affording an opportunity and suggesting the propriety of repeating the story of its beginning, glancing at the work it has done, and sketching the life of one just taken from us who was the last of the little band who either gave it an existence or established its early reputation.

The corner-stone of the present Montreal General Hospital was laid on the 6th June, 1821, and it was opened in the following May for the reception of patients. Doubtless, the possession of the hospital suggested to its medical attendants the idea of establishing a medical school in connection with it, and thereby, not only securing greater care and skill in the treatment of the sick, but providing for the performance of another function of an hospital, not sufficiently thought of by philanthropists—the practical teaching of the medical art. Equal to the responsibilities of their office as physicians to a hospital recently provided by the liberality of their fellow-citizens, and alive to the importance of affording Canadian youths, at least, the elements of a medical education at home, Drs. Stephenson, Robertson, Holmes, Caldwell and Loedel, five of the hospital staff, established the first Canadian Medical School under the name of the “Montreal Medical Institution,” and its first course of lectures was given in the academic year 1824-25. The success of the undertaking

was foreshadowed by the attendance of 25 students during its first session, not one of whom now survive. However, of its second session, Dr. Alfred Andrews of this city; of its third, Dr. Hamilton Jessup of Prescott and Dr. Joshua Chamberlain of Freightsburgh; of its fourth, Dr. Abbott of Hochelaga; and of its fifth, Dr. James B. Johnston of Sherbrooke, are still living.

The lecture-room was in a small wooden building in the Place d'Armes, where the Montreal Bank now stands. The branches then taught were: Principles and Practice of Medicine, by Dr. Caldwell; Surgery, Anatomy and Physiology, by Dr. Stephenson; Midwifery and the Diseases of Women and Children, by Dr. Robertson; Chemistry, Pharmacy and *Materia Medica*, by Dr. Holmes. It was originally intended that Dr. Loedel should have taught *Materia Medica*, but for reasons now unknown, neither he nor his immediate successor, Dr. Lyons, appears to have given lectures in the Institution.

It is deserving of mention, that of the founders of the first medical school in Canada, one, Dr. Stephenson, was a native Canadian, and another was educated in Canada, having come to this country when only four years of age; and from that time to the present, the Medical Faculty of this University, into which, as you will presently learn, the Montreal Medical Institution passed, has been largely composed of native Canadians. Indeed, at this moment, every member of this Faculty but one is by birth a Canadian, and, what is more significant, with the same single exception, every member of it received his medical degree in course at this University before he went to Europe to erect a superstructure upon the broad foundation which the authorities of McGill College at an early period in its history wisely insisted upon. Who shall say that our *Alma Mater* has not had confidence in her sons? Who can fairly allege that Canadians have not realized their responsibilities to their country, or have proved recreant to her claims upon them?

The next event in the history of the early days of this Faculty is of no little interest. As early as the year 1811, the Hon. James McGill, one of those noble-minded men who, having by their industry and ability realized a moderate fortune, feel it to

be a privilege, if not an obligation, to give a portion of their means for the benefit of the country in which they have acquired their wealth, died, and bequeathed a valuable property and £10,000 currency for the purpose of endowing a college which was to bear his name, and form part of the University which he, in common with his fellow-citizens, believed it was the intention of His Majesty George III. to establish in Montreal.

I know not whether it is a necessary outcome of so-called popular or representative governments like those of Great Britain and the United States that provision for the establishment of institutions for the higher education of the people appears not to be a function of the Government, but a privilege, a duty assigned to private individuals. However this may be, notwithstanding the announcement made by the Lieut.-Governor of the Province to the Legislative Assembly in 1801 that it was the intention of His Majesty "that a suitable proportion of the lands of the Crown should be set apart" for the instruction of the people, and notwithstanding the establishing of "the Royal Institution for the Advancement of Learning," no grants of land were given, and were it not for the munificence of a private citizen, it is highly probable that an university for the education of the English-speaking people of this Province would not now exist, and certainly it would not have attained its 50th session. Relying on the good intentions of the government and upon the bequests of Mr. McGill, the Royal Institution, in 1820, obtained a Royal charter for "McGill College," but, owing to litigation as to the will, could not get possession of the estate bequeathed by that gentleman till 1829. It was a condition of the bequest that lectures should be given within a certain term of years; but one year of that period then remained, altogether too limited a time in which to select and appoint among the then small population of Canada suitable persons to constitute a Faculty of Arts, the ratification of such appointments, moreover, requiring to be made by His Majesty. What was to be done? The governors of the College communicated with the members of the Medical Institution with the view of constituting it a Faculty of the College, and in the minutes of the first meeting of the governors, held

on the 29th June, 1329, for the promulgation of the charter, the following entry appears :—

“ After the public business was over, the governors of the Corporation held an interview with the members of the Montreal Medical Institution who had been requested to attend the meeting for that purpose. Owing to this interview, it was resolved by the governors of the Corporation that the members of the Montreal Medical Institution (Dr. Caldwell, Dr. Stephenson, Dr. Robertson and Dr. Holmes) be engrafted upon the College as its Medical Faculty, it being understood and agreed upon between the said contracting parties that, until the powers of the charter would be altered, one of their number only should be University Professor and the others Lecturers. That they should immediately enter upon the duties of their respective offices. All of which arrangements were agreed to.”

The first session of the Medical Faculty of McGill College was held in 1829–30, at which 35 students attended ; of whom survive our esteemed friends Dr. David, Dean of the Medical Faculty of Bishop’s College ; and Dr. Johnston, of Sherbrooke. Of the third session, Dr. Macdonald, of Cornwall ; of the fourth, Dr. Joseph Workman, ex-Professor of Midwifery of the Toronto School of Medicine, and Dr. F. W. Hart, of St. Martinville, Louisiana, are also happily alive, and the former present to-day. The Faculty has continued its lectures annually ever since, except during the three years comprised between 1836-39, so that the present is its 50th session. It no longer, however, is entrusted with the management of the farm, a duty assigned it by the governors in 1833 ; which farm, by the way, is now covered by the University buildings, the several handsome structures belonging to Colleges affiliated with the University, the magnificent Museum in which we are now assembled, the recent gift of a private citizen, and not by any means his first act of munificence to the University, and the mansions which have been built on the streets extending south to St. Catherine Street, and from University Street east to McGill College Avenue west. It is due to the memory of the first governors and promoters of McGill College to state here that they purposed to provide not alone for the teaching of Arts, but also of Divinity and Medicine, and that on the 4th December, 1823, five professors were appointed to the following chairs : Divinity, Moral Philosophy and the

learned languages, History and Civil Law, Mathematics and Natural Philosophy, and Medicine. The gentleman who had the honour of being appointed the first professor of medicine to McGill was Dr. Thomas Fargues, a graduate of Edinburgh and a resident of Quebec. However, it does not appear that he ever lectured ; the contestation of the will prevented the institution from going into actual operation* for some years subsequently.

Turning now to the four men who were the founders of medical teaching in Canada, with but one of them was the speaker acquainted, and some who are present will, he feels sure, endorse what he is about to say respecting him. Dr. Andrew Fernando Holmes was born in Cadiz ; the vessel in which his parents were sailing to Canada having been captured by a French frigate and taken to that place. He arrived in this country when but four years old ; at 15 he became a student of Dr. Arnoldi, père, and subsequently graduated in Edinburgh in 1819, the subject of his thesis being "*De Tetano.*" It was dedicated with filial affection to his father, and with gratitude to his former patron : "Danieti Arnoldi, armigero, chirurgo peritissimo, cuius sub auspiciis primum arti medicæ incubuit ; hoc tentamen grati animi exequum testimonium dedicat auctor."

Having returned from Paris, where he completed his studies, to this country, we find him, in 1821, elected an attending physician of the Montreal General Hospital, and, in 1824, taking an active part in founding the first Canadian Medical School. In that institution, and afterwards in McGill University, he lectured upon Materia Medica and Chemistry until 1835, when Dr. Archibald Hall divided with him the teaching of the former subject, while he continued the latter unaided up to 1844. That year, owing to the death of Dr. Robertson, he succeeded to the chair of the Theory and Practice of Medicine, and ably filled it up to the time of his decease. During the last eight years of his life he held the honourable position of Dean of the Medical Faculty, and to his studious care the College is mainly indebted for its valuable medical library, which for many years was kept at his private residence. Having sat under him as a pupil, and

* See the *Canadian Magazine*, Vol. IV, p. 172.

having enjoyed the privilege of his friendship as a colleague, I can testify to the care and thoroughness with which he prepared his lectures upon medicine, a characteristic of all the work he ever undertook ; to the affectionate interest he manifested in the welfare of the students ; and to the earnestness and constancy with which he devoted his time, influence and means to the service of his God. He died instantaneously of fatty degeneration of the heart, on the 9th October, 1860, while writing a notice to convene a meeting of the Medical Faculty. A sketch of his life has been written by his colleague, the late Dr. Hall.

Another person who played a conspicuous part in the early history of our school, and perhaps even more in that of the University itself, was Dr. John Stephenson, a native of this city. His father, of the same name, a merchant from Scotland, began business in Canada the year after the conquest of Quebec—his family being one of the three first English-speaking families who settled in this city. Dr. Stephenson's education began at “ Le College de Montreal,” where his diligence and love of study won for him the regard of the Reverend Fathers. He afterwards became a student in the University of Edinburgh, where he obtained the degree of M.D. in 1820, the title of his thesis being “ *De Velosynthesis.*”

It would appear from the records of the Montreal General Hospital that most probably to Doctor Stephenson belongs the honour of originating the Medical Institution, for in the minutes of the meeting of governors of the hospital, under date August 6th, 1822, this entry is found : “ That Dr. Stephenson be allowed to put in his advertisement for lectures next winter that they will be given at the Montreal General Hospital.” That his example bore fruit is shown by the minutes of the meeting of the 4th February, 1823, where it is noted that the medical board of the hospital communicated to the governors its intention “ to deliver lectures on the different branches of the profession.” So great was the earnestness of young Stephenson in the cause of education, and so much did he deplore the absence of any provision for the proper education of the English-speaking people of the Province, that (his nephew, William Whiteford, Esq., of the

Temple, in a short notice of his uncle kindly written for me, and to which I am indebted for many of the facts herein stated, observes that) Dr. Stephenson "was the first to begin the agitation which resulted finally in wresting from the hands of the heirs of Mr. James McGill the bequest of that gentleman towards a college"; but, "except from his own profession, he received very little sympathy." That the University is largely indebted to its Medical Faculty as a whole, and to Dr. Stephenson in particular, for the recovery of the bequest made to it by its founder, is further rendered probable by the fact that at a meeting of the governors of the College, held on 29th July, 1833, it was "resolved that the Medical Faculty of the College be authorized to use the means necessary to forward the interests of the College in the suit now pending touching the £10,000 bequeathed by the late Hon. James McGill," etc. At the same meeting Dr. Stephenson was nominated Registrar to the University. I have been informed by a reliable person (Dr. Joseph Workman) that the successful issue of the contest and the recovery of the estate was largely due to the untiring energy and personal influence of Dr. Stephenson. And this opinion is borne out by the testimony of the late Hon. Peter McGill, who, in some letters of introduction given many years ago to Mr. Whiteford, speaks of his uncle (Dr. S.) "as the man, of all others, to whom we owe the existence of McGill College." He did good work also as a teacher in the two institutions with whose foundation he was so intimately connected, having lectured upon anatomy and surgery from 1824 to 1835, and subsequently upon anatomy only up to the year of his decease, 1842. He is said to have been an able and eloquent lecturer, and was a man of considerable culture and great industry. For many years he had a large share of the confidence of the public as a practitioner, and until the time of his death his name was a household word amongst all nationalities in this city.

Dr. Wm. Robertson, the first lecturer upon Midwifery and the Diseases of Women and Children in the Institution, was descended from an ancient and respectable family in Perthshire, being the second son of the late James Robertson, Esq., of Kendrochot.

Of his early history I have only been able to learn that he studied medicine in Edinburgh, where he passed his examinations with credit. Almost immediately after he joined the 49th Regiment as assistant surgeon, at Cape Breton Island, in 1806, was subsequently promoted to the 41st as surgeon, served through the war of 1812, was present at the storming of Fort Niagara, and, on the declaration of peace in 1815, settled in this city and practiced his profession for nearly twenty-eight years. His ability, culture and social disposition secured him a large practice amongst the *elite* of the city. On the death of Dr. Caldwell, he was appointed to the chair of Medicine, which he filled until removed by death on the 18th July, 1844. His lectures are said to have been carefully prepared and slowly delivered; but he was unable to instruct his pupils in the practice of the obstetrical art, for the University Lying-in Hospital was not established until November, 1843. In an obituary notice of Dr. Robertson by the editors of the Montreal *Medical Gazette* of 1st August, 1844, the following occurs: "He was gifted with great powers of intellect, which were much increased by an indefatigable industry and an assiduous culture rarely equalled."

Of Dr. William Caldwell, the first lecturer in this school upon the Principles and Practice of Medicine, I have been unable to learn much. He was born in Ayrshire, Scotland, in 1782, and studied medicine and graduated in Edinburgh in 18 . He was surgeon to the 13th Regiment of Dragoons, and served in the Peninsular war on Lord Aylmer's staff. Dr. David, his private pupil, informs me that he was a man of severe military bearing, but of mild and amiable disposition—cool in judgment, wise in council, and kind in the treatment of his patients. His lectures on Medicine were scientific, and ably delivered from carefully written notes. He died on 23rd January, 1833, at the age of 48 years, of typhus fever, complicated with pulmonary gangrene. For many years he was a leading practitioner in this city.

It does not appear that any change was made in the *personnel* of the Medical Institution when it became the Medical Faculty of McGill College; its lecturers became the lecturers of the

College, teaching the same subjects that they had taught previously, and in the same building.

On the death of Dr. Caldwell in 1833, Dr. Racey, a native of Quebec, and a young man of considerable talent, who had received his early training in the Montreal Medical Institution, and had completed his professional education at Edinburgh, the then British Athens for medical learning and teaching, was appointed associate lecturer on Midwifery (and perhaps on Surgery, Dr. Hall).

It was in the year 1835 that the man whose loss as a faculty we this day deplore, and whose life we are presently about to glance at, became officially connected with this University. That year some important changes were made in the teaching staff of the University. To Dr. Campbell was entrusted the chair of surgery, previously held by Dr. Stephenson, and that of midwifery, which had just become vacant by the removal of Dr. Racey to Quebec. Dr. Stephenson was thus enabled to devote all his time to the subject of anatomy ; and the labours of Dr. Holmes were reduced by the appointment of Dr. Archibald Hall associate lecturer with him on *Materia Medica*, while he continued alone responsible for the teaching of Chemistry.

The next important event deserving of mention was the establishing of the University Lying-in Hospital in the session of 1843-44, which provided the means of giving practical instruction in a very important branch of medical knowledge. The Faculty is deeply indebted to the kind co-operation of the many ladies who have watched over that institution since it was opened. It was in the year 1845 that the corporation of the University, at the suggestion of the Medical Faculty, took the wise resolve to extend the curriculum of study and to appoint lecturers upon Clinical Medicine and Surgery, the Institutes of Medicine, and Medical Jurisprudence. The first teachers of those subjects were respectively the late Dr. James Crawford, Dr. Robert L. MacDonnell, and Dr. William Fraser. By this step not only was there a means provided of imparting instruction in all the departments of medical study then deemed necessary in the best European schools, but an importance was given to clinical teach-

ing and study, which has had the happiest effect upon the young men trained in the McGill School of Medicine. In assigning the duty of teaching at the bedside to one person, and making him responsible for the work, instead of leaving it to the several members of the medical staff of the Hospital indifferently, as it might chance to please them, efficient and regular bedside instruction was secured, to the great advantage of the students. Changes have been made from time to time in the system of clinical teaching pursued in this University till it has reached its present excellence, which I do not hesitate to say is unsurpassed in any hospital in the mother country, and not equalled in any in this. In 1849 the clinical chair was divided, Dr. Crawford retaining clinical medicine and Dr. MacDonnell taking charge of clinical surgery ; in 1870 a practical examination at the bedside by the professors of clinical medicine and clinical surgery was made a compulsory requirement for the medical degree ; and in 1874, twelve months instruction in clinical medicine and the same in clinical surgery were required, instead of six as before.

The new departure made by the Faculty in 1845 seems to have inaugurated a series of changes extending to the present, and all intended to elevate the standard of medical education and provide for the more thorough training of the student in the science and the art of medicine. As early as 1848 the corporation passed a statute rendering four years of professional study a necessary qualification for the medical degree of the University, although it did not require that the whole period should be spent in attending a medical school. At present, however, it is the rare exception for one of our graduates not to have pursued his studies for four winter sessions. In that same year botany was placed on the list of compulsory subjects.

An event of no uncommon importance to the University as a whole, and to its Medical Faculty as well, transpired in 1855, viz., the appointment of the present Principal to the charge of the University. His previous experience as the Superintendent of Education in his native Province and his enthusiasm in the cause of education, his energy and force of character, his familiarity with the genius and the wants of the people, his faculty

of enlisting the interest and sympathies of those about him in whatever work he undertakes, his mature judgment, great attainments, and personal character have not only, as it were, galvanized into active life and vigour the previously struggling department of Arts, but have extended the proportions of the College to those of a great University, in which Faculties of Law and of Applied Science have been added to the original Faculties of Arts and Medicine ; and with which six independent colleges have become affiliated. The same fostering care has been extended by the Principal to the Medical Faculty. He has upon all occasions taken a warm interest in our concerns, assisted us by his wise counsel and experience, and strengthened us by his personal sympathy and support. And we are very largely indebted to him for the possession of the fine building in which our Faculty has its present habitation. Even in a hasty glance at the history of a single Faculty of the University, it would have been an unpardonable omission not to pay a tribute to a man who, at a most important era in the life of the University, revived a general interest and zeal which had well nigh expired ; evoked a spirit of liberality amongst the citizens ; inaugurated and organized a comprehensive system of higher education adapted to the wants of a new country, yet not inferior in its intrinsic value to the systems of older countries ; collected a body of competent teachers imbued, in some measure at least, with the lofty aims and devotion which characterize himself ; won by his rare qualities the confidence of the people, the regard and co-operation of his colleagues, the admiration and respect of the students ; and infused into every department of the University his own vitalizing, energizing spirit. The name of John William Dawson must ever rank alongside that of James McGill as the co-founder of this great University.

Time will not permit me to trace step by step the improvements which have been made in the teaching capabilities of our medical school, and a hasty allusion to some of them must suffice. One of the most important was the establishing, in 1876, of a three months summer session, during which short courses of lectures upon special subjects have been given partly by the pro-

fessors and partly by instructors appointed for that purpose. In this way the attention of the classes has been directed to topics which cannot well receive sufficient consideration during the winter sessions,—such as the diseases of women and children; diseases of the eye, ear, throat and skin; operative and minor surgery; the urine; symptomatology; electro-therapeutics; the art of prescribing, etc. Clinical instruction is also regularly given during the summer months by two of the professors in the General Hospital; and the practical instruction of senior students in gynaecology is continued in the University Dispensary, an institution opened by the Faculty in 1879 for that purpose and for the treatment of skin affections. Instruction in the employment of the microscope in medicine forms a special summer course, and was begun in 1875.

The establishing of this summer course makes the academic year in this school last nine months, and it is very gratifying to find that the number of students availing themselves of the advantages it offers is steadily increasing.

Another important advance was made in 1876, when the indefatigable Professor of Institutes began a series of weekly demonstrations in morbid anatomy.

While bedside teaching is on all hands admitted to be essential to the student of medicine as a preparation for the practice of his art, the great value of the examination of the diseased body after death is not sufficiently recognized. It, and often only it, reveals the truth or error of the diagnoses formed. It, and only it, will sometimes account for an anomaly observed during life, or explain the failure of treatment observed by the most experienced. Nothing like it cures men of over-confidence—of hasty conclusions. Nothing more enlarges their view of the possibility of similar morbid processes producing dissimilar symptoms—and of identical alterations developing unlikeness, even contrariety, in their vital manifestations. I hope the time will come when enlightened people will, in the interest of their families, as well as of the public, request, not reluctantly consent to, a careful post-mortem examination of their deceased relatives, at least when anything of an unusual or obscure nature has appertained to the illness which has proved fatal.

In 1878, the University, recognizing the great value of a thorough knowledge of practical anatomy to the medical students, instituted an examination in that subject which must be passed in order to obtain the degree in medicine. Finally, in 1879, a physiological laboratory was added to the technique of the chair of Physiology, and the senior students have now the opportunity of studying practically the essentials in the chemistry of digestion, the secretions and the urine, and of following a demonstration course in experimental physiology with the use of apparatus.

Passing from this brief sketch of the history of our medical school and of its founders, we ask your attention to the notice of a man who, though not a founder, was a very early and successful builder up of the school, and for many years presided over its destinies as its Dean.

The late Geo. W. Campbell, A.M., M.D., LL.D., was born on the 19th October, 1810, in Roseneath, Dumbartonshire, Scotland. His father was factor to the Duke of Argyle, a Justice of the Peace and Deputy-Lieutenant for the County of Dumbarton, of which the Duke of Montrose was their Lord Lieutenant. Mr. Campbell, who lived in stirring times, was an able and energetic man, and took an active part in public matters. After a life of great integrity and irreproachable conduct, he died at the age of 82. His mother was a daughter of Donald Campbell, of Ardnacross, Mull, Argyleshire. She died, after having had a large family, at the early age of 42, beloved by all to whom she was known ; and it may be interesting to mention that she had four brothers, three of whom, after reaching the rank of captain, and distinguishing themselves highly, fell gloriously in the Peninsular War. By the death of his eldest brother, Dr. Campbell recently inherited a small entailed estate on the shores of Loch Long, in the same parish, and also became the representative of an old branch of his clan, his paternal grandfather having been the nearest male relative and heir to Sir Alexander Campbell of Arkinglass, by whom the entail of his estates was (perhaps naturally) broken, and his property divided between his two daughters.

Dr. Campbell received his early education from his dear old

friend, the Rev. Dr. Mathieson, who was tutor in his father's family for many years, and who will long be remembered here. During his undergraduate course at the Glasgow University he highly distinguished himself, and, after graduating in Arts, won and held the Brisbane Bursary of £50 stg. a year during the four years of his attendance on the medical classes. Then, having passed one session in Dublin, he obtained the degree of M.D. of Glasgow University, and proceeding to Edinburgh, took the L.R.C.S. in 1832. In May of that year he came to Canada, and began immediately the practice of his profession. Notwithstanding his youth, for he was then but 23, he rapidly acquired the confidence of those who became acquainted with him, and, what better establishes the actual qualifications of the man was his selection by the founders of this school for the chairs of surgery and midwifery at the early age of 25. In the same year he was elected an attending physician and surgeon of the Montreal General Hospital, and it was in that institution that he acquired the surgical skill which tended not only to his own advancement, but made the Hospital the resort of patients from all parts of the Province, and, after a time, added very greatly to the reputation of McGill College as a surgical school—a reputation which has not suffered in the trusty hands of his successor, the present professor of surgery. After eighteen years service in the hospital he resigned, and was placed upon its consulting staff, but continued the remainder of his life to take an active interest in hospital work, attending regularly the consultations of its staff, and assisting them by his great experience and good judgment, and not unfrequently aiding them with his skilful hands, especially if the operator were experienced. He retained the lectureship upon midwifery till 1842, when he resigned in favour of his intimate friend, the late Dr. Michael McCullough. It was the same year in which the late Dr. O. T. Bruneau succeeded to the chair of anatomy, rendered vacant by the death of Dr. Stephenson. He now confined his teaching to his favourite subject, and for 40 years, from first to last, faithfully and ably lectured on the principles and practice of surgery, until declining health convinced him that it was his duty to resign. When

it is remembered that during nearly the whole—certainly during three-fourths of that time—he had a very large general private practice, and for 18 years of it was an attending physician of the General Hospital, besides being on the boards of management of several public institutions, it will at once appear that he must have not only been a very diligent man, but must have had an ardent love of his profession, and felt a deep interest in teaching. Nor were his professional duties performed in a perfunctory manner. None of his colleagues were more regular in their attendance, and up to the last he kept himself acquainted with the progress of practical surgery. His love of that branch stimulated him to note the wonderful changes that have arisen in the practice of surgery of late years, and his sound judgment and surgical instinct enabled him very frequently to adopt at once what were real improvements and to reject what were spurious.

“ Not clinging to some ancient saw,
Not mastered by some modern term,
Not swift nor slow to change, but firm.”

On the death of Dr. Holmes in 1860, Dr. Campbell was appointed Dean of the Medical Faculty, and the following resolution passed by that body indicates how he conducted himself in that and his other relations to the Faculty :—

“ That the Medical Faculty of McGill University has heard with profound regret and sorrow of the unexpected death in Edinburgh of their beloved and respected Dean, the late Geo. W. Campbell, A.M., M.D., LL.D., Emeritus Professor of Surgery in the University. An active member of this Faculty since 1835, he contributed very greatly, by his distinguished abilities as a teacher of surgery, to establish the reputation of its medical school ; and as its Dean since 1860, by his administrative capacity, his devotion to the duties of his office, his wise counsels, his unvarying kindness and consideration for his colleagues, and his high personal character, he not only increased the efficiency of the department of the University over which he presided, but secured the cordial co-operation of all its members in the advancement of its interests, and attached them personally to him as their most valued friend and most distinguished and honourable colleague in the teaching and practice of the medical art.

“ And, further, that this Faculty tender to the bereaved family of their beloved Dean its deep-felt sympathy in the irreparable loss which has so unexpectedly befallen them, the profession to which he belonged, and the community in which he so long, so lovingly and so successfully laboured.”

As a lecturer, he was clear and emphatic, making no attempt at oratorical display, nor affecting erudition. Devoid of mannerism, he tersely and in well chosen Saxon words dealt with the essential and the more important features of the subject he had in hand. In his lectures his own mental constitution, clear apprehension and practical mind led him to occupy himself chiefly with what is well established in surgical pathology, to sketch boldly, but faithfully, the symptoms of disease, and to insist emphatically, yet briefly and soundly, upon the proper method of treating it. Quite alive to the great extension of the curriculum of the modern medical student, and to the almost innumerable facts that he is expected to store away in his memory, and heartily sympathizing with him, he never indulged in unnecessary hypotheses and scrupulously avoided minute and trivial details, obsolete practises and equivocal speculations. He taught surgical anatomy and operative surgery with much ability, and his college course of lectures has always been highly prized by the members of his class, and largely contributed to build up the reputation of the medical school connected with this University. And high as the position he attained as a teacher was, it was surpassed by his reputation as a practitioner. Like most men residing in cities of the size of ours, he was a general practitioner. Having had the advantage of a medical and surgical training in the large hospitals of Dublin and Glasgow under such men as Buchanan, Macfarlane, Cusack, Colles, Stokes and Graves, having been, as already mentioned, for many years attached to the Montreal General Hospital, where every member of its staff took charge both of medical and surgical cases, and having for many years practised all branches of the profession in private, it is not to be wondered at that he was an able and successful practitioner of the medical art. Devoting but little time, at least during the earlier period of his career, to what is called "society," he spent his evenings very largely in studying the standard authors in medicine and surgery. He was a very competent diagnostician in the various affections of the heart, lungs and other viscera ; and his good judgment and long experience made him very successful in the treatment of

disease generally. He was also an able accoucheur. But it was in surgery that he was pre-eminent. Lecturing upon that subject for so many years, having a great love for it, and endowed by nature with a quick eye, steady hand and firm nerve, he was specially qualified to be a good surgeon ; and so he was. There are few of the great operations in surgery that he has not performed. He was a skilful and successful lithotomist, yet frequently practised lithotrity in conformity with modern teaching.

Like many other able teachers and successful practitioners of the medical art, he did not contribute many papers to medical science—a fact in his case to be regretted, as his ability and experience would have justified him in expressing opinions upon debated questions, and his opportunities for observation must have supplied him with ample materials. He was, however, a man of action rather than of words. The following are the leading articles which he published in the local medical journals :—
 “Aneurism of the Arteria Innominata and Arch of the Aorta. Ligature of the Common Carotid.”—(*Brit. American Journal of Med. and Physical Science*, 1845.) “Case of Osteocephaloma of Humerus—Amputation at Shoulder Joint—Secondary Haemorrhage from Axillary Artery arrested by Compression.” (*Medical Chronicle*, 1854.) “Two cases of Intestinal Obstruction from Internal Strangulation, and one of Inflammation and Perforation of the Appendix Vermiformis.”—(*Ib.* 1854.) “Ligature of the Gluteal Artery for Traumatic Aneurism.”—(*Brit. American Journal*. 1863.) “Ligature of the External Iliac for Aneurism of the Common Femoral.”—(*Canada Med. Journal*, 1865.) “Excision of Elbow in consequence of Dislocation of Head of Radius and formation of large Exostosis.”—(*Ib.* 1868.) “Valedictory Address to Graduates in Medicine.” (*Med. Chronicle*, 1859.) “Valedictory Address to Medical Graduates.”—(*Canada Med. Journal*, 1867.) “Introductory Lecture at Opening of Session 1869-70 of Medical Faculty of McGill College.”—(*Ib.* Vol. VI.)

In what are called medical politics he took no very active part ; yet he at all times manifested much interest in any movement or measure intended to improve medical education or

advance the status of the profession, or protect its legitimate interests. As an influential member of the Medical Faculty of this University, and for many years as its Dean, he promptly entertained and advocated any proposal that promised to prove beneficial to the school as a teaching body, to the students, or to the medical profession and public. And it was in recognition of these services and of others rendered by him as a member of the corporation of this University to the cause of higher education that induced that body to honour itself by conferring on him the degree of LL.D.—*honoris causa*.

In whatever relation of life we regard the late Dr. Campbell, we shall find much to admire, and few men have as well deserved to be presented to medical students and medical men as an exemplar for their imitation.

As a citizen, he took an active interest in almost every public enterprise calculated to develop the material interests of the city and the country generally, protect the health, and elevate the morals of the community. Thus for many years he was a Director in the Montreal Telegraph Company, the City Gas Company, the Bank of Montreal, of which last he lately was made Vice-President, and was a stockholder in these and many other mercantile ventures, such as Shipping, Insurance and Mining Companies, cotton, woollen and other manufactures. He took a live interest in procuring the appointment of a city health officer, and upon several occasions formed one of a deputation to the municipal authorities for such purposes as advocating general vaccination, erection of a small-pox hospital, passing of by-laws to improve the sanitary condition of the city, etc. Nor did he fail to assist with his personal influence and his means the various institutions in our midst intended to provide for the bodily wants and the moral and religious needs of the people.

As a medical adviser, he was not only eminently capable, but painstaking and warmly interested in his patients, and they recognized in him a judicious and sympathizing friend as well as a competent physician.

As a colleague he was held in the highest esteem for his professional attainments and skill, his straightforward and honour-

able behaviour, and his consideration for the feelings and reputation of his brethren. In cases of difficulty or responsibility, his opinion and aid were eagerly sought and as generously given, and many who hear me can testify to the sense of relief and the feeling of confidence his participation in a consultation at once produced. By nature and practice a gentleman, and familiar with the many difficulties which often embarrass the formation of a reliable opinion upon the nature and appropriate treatment of disease, he never intentionally spoke disparagingly of a rival practitioner, nor by innuendo weakened the confidence of a patient in his attendant : having satisfied his own mind by a thorough examination of a case in consultation, he frankly, but courteously, stated his opinion, and in the subsequent management of it, loyally and heartily co-operated with the medical attendant. The absence of petty jealousy and his readiness to acknowledge —nay, to eulogise—professional ability in others, made him the trusted and beloved teacher and colleague. If any evidence were needed to indicate the esteem in which he was held by the profession of which he was so distinguished a member, and by the public whom he so long and faithfully served, much might be adduced. Let it suffice to recall the public dinner given to him by his brethren on his return from Europe after his first visit to his native land. The chair was occupied by his much-esteemed friend the lamented Sutherland, who, with that good taste and felicity of expression of which he was so capable, made known his personal regard for his friend, and in most feeling and eulogistic terms declared the esteem in which he was held by the whole profession. The profession was largely represented at the dinner, and several of its representative men testified to the high professional and personal character of the man they had met to honour. Amongst the few kind and manly sentiments which his full heart permitted him to utter, one expression deserves recording, as it was the reflex of his own kind heart. He “ felt proud to say that he believed he had not a personal enemy in the whole profession.” The many resolutions of sympathy and condolence, of regret and respect, which were passed by the corporation and by the Medical Faculty of McGill University, by the Medico-

Chirurgical Society of Montreal, by the Medical Board of the Montreal General Hospital, by the College of Physicians and Surgeons representing the medical profession of the Province, and by the Canada Medical Association, representing the medical men of the Dominion, and those passed by the Board of Directors of the Bank of Montreal, of the Montreal Telegraph Company, and of the Montreal General Hospital, are further unmistakeable and spontaneous tributes to the worth of the departed one.

And were it quite proper to lift the veil of privacy and follow the departed into domestic life, we should still, in the friend, the husband and the father, find qualities which, while they would command our admiration and deepen our affection for the man, would arouse within us aspirations to become like him.

As a friend, he was unswerving—faithful in watching over the interests of those to whom he held that relation ; reticent and charitable respecting their faults, sympathetic in their troubles, and constant in his attentions and deeds of kindness.

I cannot venture to speak of him as a husband and father—of such relationships none less than one of kin must dare to speak. This much may be said : that it was in the domestic circle he found his highest enjoyment—it was there he chose to spend his leisure hours. His chivalrous devotion to his wife and daughters—his hearty participation in the amusements and duties of his son, made him the object of their undying affection—the loved one gone before, whom they desire to join.

Such was Campbell—such was our late beloved Dean. The announcement of his unexpected death produced a thrill of emotion throughout the entire community—a feeling that a public calamity had occurred was experienced by the Canadian people. This Faculty had lost its head ; the profession had lost its councillor ; the sick had lost their ablest physician ; the city had lost one of its most distinguished citizens. The words of Dr. J. Brown, when inscribing his “Locke and Sydenham” to his old master, Mr. Syme, may truthfully be applied to our departed teacher and Dean—“*Verax—capax, perspicax—sagax, efficax—tenax.*”

“ Were a star quenched on high,
 For ever would its light,
 Still travelling downward from the sky
 Shine on mortal sight.
 So when a good man dies,
 For years beyond our ken,
 The light he leaves behind him lies
 Upon the paths of men.”

When reviewing the developmental history of our medical school, we have recorded a good deal of what it has done ; but another portion of its work remains to be spoken of, however briefly, viz., the number of its students and of its graduates. It appears from the records that about 2,000 students have received their medical education in whole or in part in this institution, and that 917 have obtained its degree in medicine. These numbers alone are fair evidence of a large amount of good work accomplished by the Medical Faculty of McGill University ; and the positions attained by many of her alumni, the high professional qualifications assigned to them wherever they have practiced their profession, and their general loyalty to those time-honoured and lofty principles by which the great physicians of the past have been animated in their dealings with one another and with the public, all indicate the quality of the instruction given and the abiding influence of the moral lessons imparted by their *Alma Mater*. Her Alumni are widely scattered over the Dominion of Canada—are present in goodly numbers in many of the States of the neighbouring Republic—not a few of them have obtained appointments in the army-service of the mother country—and a few are practising acceptably in that country. One of them, at present, has the distinguished honour of representing Her Gracious Majesty as the Lieut.-Governor of this Province, several of them have seats in the Legislative Assemblies of the Dominion and its Provinces, many of them are teachers in the various medical institutions of Canada, and the great majority of them are practising the medical art with credit and profit to themselves and with benefit to their patients.

On this side the Atlantic at least, the holder of the medical degree of this University is, by common consent, accepted as a

person well qualified to discharge the duties of a medical practitioner ; and I have never met a man who thought lightly of its possession. Of the *future* of our medical school, time will not permit much to be said. That the same success which has attended its past will accompany its future, I have no doubt. The energy, industry and ability that characterized its founders have never been wanting in their successors. The participation in the spirit and knowledge of their time, and the aspiration to lead in medical education, which were conspicuous qualities in its first teachers, are not deficient in their followers. And some of us, who must soon fall out of the ranks, look forward with implicit confidence in the youthful energy, the proved ability, and the progressive spirit of our younger colleagues to maintain and to extend the reputation of the Medical Faculty of McGill College.

It should be—it must be—the aim of this Faculty not merely to keep up with sister and rival institutions, but, true to her past, to lead them all. To do this, however, will require the active co-operation of the friends of medical education, and some united and strenuous effort on the part of the members of our Faculty. The capabilities of our school are crippled, and our efforts to improve them are impeded by the want of means. We have no endowments, and receive no pecuniary assistance from the University. Had we a Faculty Fund of \$50,000, the revenue it would yield could be applied to making some very much needed alterations of and additions to our buildings, and to extending our means of teaching in directions that would have remarkable results on our usefulness. Our present building is too small. We very much need increased accommodation for our library, now numbering 8,000 volumes—perhaps the largest medical library in Canada. A laboratory for the teaching of practical pharmacy is now regarded as a necessary appurtenance of a great medical school, yet we do not possess it. A room for the meetings of the Faculty, and in which the professors, after their lectures, could meet the students without interfering with the next lecturer, is very much needed. Our museum will, ere long, be too small, and extra apparatus for teaching purposes is needed in all the departments. Then there are, at least, two directions

in which our system of medical teaching could be most profitably extended. The first of these is the appointment of capable junior men to undertake the elementary teaching of the primary students at the bedside, in small classes of ten or twelve, from day to day. The physical appliances and means of detecting and discriminating disease are now so numerous, that nothing short of teaching every student individually at the bedside how to apply them—just as we teach practical anatomy—can properly qualify them either for efficiently acting as clinical clerks in their final years, or for discharging their higher duties as practitioners after they have graduated. I should regard this as a very important improvement on the present system of medical training; but we want means with which to pay well qualified men for the considerable time that such instruction would occupy. The other direction in which the system of medical education at present in vogue pretty well all over the world, I believe, might be most profitably extended, is the institution of a chair of comparative pathology. It is beginning to be felt by advanced pathologists that that obscure and difficult department of medical science, the origin and causation of disease, cannot make satisfactory progress unless the genesis of disease is systematically studied in animals lower than man, and in the vegetable kingdom also. Not until science has ascertained the conditions under which the various forms of disease originate, and the processes of evolution and modification they undergo throughout the organic kingdom—not until the first departures from normal development, nutrition, repair and dissolution can be detected, can we hope to prevent disease, or to arrest its progress. Yet such is the God-like aim, the inspiring hope, of the modern physician. Taught by the experience of the past of the limits of his power in the cure of disease, he seeks to prevent its development and its propagation, and, failing these, to arrest its course, moderate its violence, and, as far as possible, re-establish health. The endowment of such a chair would place our school in advance of those of the mother country in that respect, and without an ample endowment, a person possessed of the necessary attainments could hardly be obtained.

Such, then, are some of the uses for which we want a Faculty Fund, and we venture to suggest to the friends of our late Dean, amongst whom he practised so long and so faithfully, that the creation of such a fund, to be called "The Campbell Memorial Fund," would be a graceful tribute to the memory and the worth of a good man and an able physician. On this, the jubilee session—the golden wedding year—of the Faculty of Medicine of McGill College, the creation of such a fund by the citizens of this metropolis would be a gratifying evidence that its career and its work have merited their approval.

NOTE.—It is not generally known that the members of the Medical Institution were appointed, in 1823, by His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief of the Province of Lower Canada, the Board of Medical Examiners for the District of Montreal, as the following copy of the commission will show :—

To WILLIAM ROBERTSON, ESQUIRE, WILLIAM CALDWELL, M.D., JOHN STEPHENSON, M.D., A. F. HOLMES, M.D., H. L. LOEDEL, ESQUIRE, and to all others whom these presents may concern.

Pursuant to an Act or Ordinance made, provided and passed in the twenty-eighth year of his late Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act or Ordinance to prevent persons practising Physic and Surgery within the Province of Quebec, or Midwifery in the towns of Quebec or Montreal, without Licence," I do hereby appoint you, or any three or more of you, the said William Robertson, William Caldwell, John Stephenson, A. F. Holmes, and H. L. Loedel, in some suitable or convenient place and manner, to examine and enquire into the knowledge of every such person as ought to have such certificate or licence as by the said Act or Ordinance is required for the uses and benefits therein mentioned. And know ye further that I, the said George, Earl of Dalhousie, do by these presents determine, revoke and make void all and singular the commissions heretofore granted and in force for the appointment of medical examiners for the said district of Montreal, and all matters and things therein contained, hereby declaring the same to be null and void, and of no effect.

Given under my hand and seal-at-arms, at the Castle of St. Louis, in the city of Quebec, in the said Province of Lower Canada, on the twenty-second day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-three.

Signed,

DALHOUSIE, *Governor.*

By His Excellency's command

MONTIZAMBERT,

Acting Prov. Secretary.

